| | Application No. | Applicant(s) | J. 7 |
|---|---|--|------------------------|
| | 09/462,502 | | |
| Notice of Allowability | Examiner | KONDO ET AL. Art Unit | |
| | Catherine Simone | 4772 | |
| | | 1772 | |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication appeal all claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 | (OR REMAINS) CLOSED ir or other appropriate commulation is s IGHTS. This application is s | n this application. If not included unication will be mailed in due or | d ourse THIS |
| 1. \boxtimes This communication is responsive to <u>amendment, filed 6/1</u> | <u>5/04</u> . | | |
| 2. X The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,5-17,19 and 20. | | | |
| 3. \boxtimes The drawings filed on <u>23 May 2003</u> are accepted by the Ex | xaminer. | | |
| Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority ur a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the: | nder 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) o | or (f). | |
| Certified copies of the priority documents have | | | |
| 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have | | | |
| Copies of the certified copies of the priority do | cuments have been received | d in this national stage application | on from the |
| International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). | | | |
| * Certified copies not received: | | | |
| Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. | of this communication to file IENT of this application. | a reply complying with the requ | irements |
| 5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give | itted. Note the attached EXA es reason(s) why the oath or | MINER'S AMENDMENT or NO declaration is deficient. | TICE OF |
| 6. 🗌 CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus | it be submitted. | | |
| (a) \square including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers | on's Patent Drawing Review | v (PTO-948) attached | |
| 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date | | | |
| (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date | s Amendment / Comment or | in the Office action of | |
| Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1. each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the | .84(c)) should be written on th he header according to 37 CFI | e drawings in the front (not the b | ack) of |
| 7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT I | sit of BIOLOGICAL MATE | ERIAL must be submitted. No | te the |
| | | | |
| Attachment(s) | | | |
| 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | | ormal Patent Application (PTO- | 152) |
| 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | | ımmary (PTO-413), Mail Date | |
| Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 Paper No./Mail Date | 8), 7. Examiner's A | Amendment/Comment | |
| 1. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit | 8. 🛛 Examiner's S | Statement of Reasons for Allowa | ance |
| of Biological Material | 9. Other | <u>.</u> | |
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Application/Control Number: 09/462,502

Art Unit: 1772

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The closest prior arts of record fail to teach or suggest the recited structure for a panel for an airbag. Independent claims 1, 12, 13 and 19, identify the uniquely distinct feature of an overlapping portion in which an outer peripheral edge of the cover body overlaps and is provided on the inner side of an opening edge of the main body "without a portion of the cover body being provided on an outer side of the opening edge of the main body." The closest prior arts of record, Shiraki (US 5,069,477) and Hiramitsu et al. (US 5,330,223) and Saito (JP 10-076544), each disclose a panel for an airbag including an overlapping portion, which either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render obvious the above limitation. Independent claims 14-17, identify the uniquely distinct feature of a "deformation restricting portion provided along each side of an outer peripheral edge of a cover body or at the periphery of the opening portion." The closest prior arts of record, Shiraki (US 5,069,477) and Hiramitsu et al. (US 5,330,223) and Saito (JP 10-076544), each disclose a panel for an airbag including a cover body made of a first synthetic resin and a main body made of a second synthetic resin, which either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render obvious the above limitations. Independent claim 20, identifies the uniquely distinct steps of "interrupting a portion between a first cavity portion for forming a first member and a second cavity portion for forming a second member by allowing the core to project and contact an opposite one of the male or female die" and "forming a communicating portion between the first and second cavity portions by retreating the core." The closest prior arts of record, Shiraki (US 5,069,477) and Hiramitsu et al. (US 5,330,223) and Saito

Art Unit: 1772

(JP 10-076544), each disclose an air bag panel including a cover body made of a first synthetic resin and a main body made of a second synthetic resin, which either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render obvious the above limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Catherine Simone whose telephone number is (571)272-1501. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached on (571) 272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Catherine Simone Examiner

Art Unit 1772

August 16, 2004

HAROLD PYON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

8/16/04